

AmeriCorps VISTA

ENLACE's mission is to coordinate and implement public policy regarding the rehabilitation of this economic disadvantaged area. This community social development organization serves approximately 30,000 people living in eight different communities located within the margins of the Caño Martín Peña. Since 2011, ENLACE has worked with 10 AmeriCorps VISTAs in different areas. VISTAs secured three grants totaling \$90,000, impacting environmental and public health issues, and the protection and restoration of el caño itself. VISTAs helped create community gardens, rescued vacant lots, created working committees for the proposed rehabilitation of structures, and secured computers, books, and other materials for a youth program.

Senior Corps

The Foster Grandparent Program-Esperanza para La Vejez has been in existence for more than 45 years. It currently supports 175 Foster Grandparents, who provide guidance and attention to children, especially those with special needs and early childhood development issues. They fill the void for these children, who may otherwise be deprived of a normal relationship at home. During the 2011-12 school year, Foster Grandparents volunteered more than 184,736 hours at 25 volunteer sites assisting children in correcting social and behavioral difficulties, and helping them to adjust to classroom activities and daily live chores. These children are nurtured, guided, and supported in order to succeed in school, and in turn these same skills help them build social capital that otherwise might not be available at home or around their community.